

PRESS RELEASE

Tuesday 3 May 2022

CARE HOME RESIDENTS WELCOME RETURN OF LIVE MUSIC AS BSO MUSICIANS PRESENT NEW SERIES



Musicians from the BSO will give a series of concerts in care homes this spring ©BSO

- Residents look forward to **29 care home performances** this spring as BSO musicians return following livestreamed symphonic concerts and outdoor performances during the pandemic.
- The hour-long programmes are specifically designed for elderly residents and feature music from a range of genres.
- The performances mark a decade of ongoing support for the BSO's music in care homes programme from **Tapper Funeral Service**, and have been expanded with thanks to **Rawlins Davy Solicitors**

Care home residents throughout the BCP region are set to benefit from a series of 29 live performances from musicians of Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra this season thanks to support from Tapper Funeral Service and Rawlins Davy Solicitors.

The hour-long interactive performances are specifically designed for elderly residents and feature a range of musical genres. Each concert is led by professional musicians from the Orchestra, and residents are encouraged to sing, clap and dance along — with song requests welcomed!

The BSO, which exists to bring culture into people's lives, was one of the first British orchestras to return to the stage with livestreamed concerts during the pandemic, **reaching almost 100,000 online viewers** to date.

Thanks to support from **Tapper Funeral Service** and **Rawlins Davy Solicitors**, the Orchestra's livestreamed performances continue to be made available to local care homes, alongside the new in-person care home concerts this season.

The beneficial impact of live music-making is well known in health and care settings and the BSO is celebrated for its work in the domain, having previously been awarded **The Alzheimer's Society's 'Dementia-Friendly Organisation of the Year'** award. The series follows the return of the Orchestra's popular 'Cake Concerts' which returned to Poole this spring.

Bea Hankey, Acting Head of BSO Participate, said, *"The BSO exists to provide cultural opportunity to everyone in the area, both in and beyond the concert hall — and during the past two years we've been keen to return to residents in local care homes, who we know really benefit from live music-making. Having kept in touch during the pandemic with our innovative livestreamed concerts, we're thrilled to finally return this spring and are grateful to Tapper Funeral Service and Rawlins Davy for their generous support for this valued part of the Orchestra's work."*

Bianca Turner, from The Lindsay Care Home said, *"Life within a care home has not been the same during the past two years. The BSO's music-making has always had such a big impact on the lives of the residents in our care and I've seen first-hand how music speaks to the soul, rekindling fond memories of younger days. We can't wait to welcome the Orchestra's musicians back this summer."*

Tapper Funeral Service this year marks a decade of support of the BSO's work in care homes, and is sponsoring 24 performances in 12 homes throughout spring and summer. The music in care homes programme has been expanded further, thanks to support from **Rawlins Davy** which joins the programme to support a further 5 concerts throughout the BCP region.

Steven Tapper, Director of Tapper Funeral Service, said, *"Since 2012, Tapper Funeral Service has been very proud to support the BSO's programme of live musical performance in residential and care homes in the local area. We recognised immediately the positive health benefits given by the provision of high calibre music — performed by BSO musicians — to those living in care settings. We pride ourselves on the high standard of our care to those who are grieving and living with loss, and we are delighted to continue our support of this impactful programme. As we enter into our 10th year of support, we celebrate all that we have achieved together, and the lives that have been — and continue to be — blessed by the music of the BSO."*

Mark Kiteley, Director of Rawlins Davy, said, “We are absolutely delighted to be supporting the BSO in taking music to care home residents once again. The Orchestra’s outreach initiatives are such an important part of what the BSO does and we are in awe of the difference it makes to people’s lives, both residents and staff – it is such a tangible example of the amazing power of music. Rawlins Davy was established in 1832 and it seems singularly appropriate that we should be supporting such a wonderful institution as the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra in what it does, not least in times that continue to be really challenging. I think we would probably all agree that community work, especially in the care sector, is more important than ever after everything that has happened in the past two years.”

This summer, the BSO will also return to Bournemouth’s Meyrick Park for two celebratory **‘Proms in the Park’ performances**. It also welcomes the return of thousands of younger audiences to Lighthouse, Poole as in-person **Schools’ Concerts** make a comeback following two years of digital offerings – over 10,000 children are signed up to experience the performances this May.

The Orchestra concludes its main season of full symphonic music this May, following performances in Basingstoke, Exeter, Poole, and Portsmouth, featuring a range of guest artists from around the globe.

For further information see [bsolive.com](https://www.bsolive.com)

[ENDS]

Notes to Editors:

For further information please contact: Claire Rawles crawles@bsorchestra.co.uk 07860 776646 or Heidi O’Neill honeill@bsorchestra.co.uk

1. [Images available here](#)
 - a) BSO musicians return to care homes this spring ©BSO
 - b) The BSO’s Cake Concerts ©BSO
 - c) The BSO’s Acting Head of BSO Participate, Bea Hankey (c)BSO

2. **About Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra**
www.bsolive.com | [@BSOrchestra](#)

Chief Conductor – Kirill Karabits

Principal Guest Conductor – Mark Wigglesworth | Associate Guest Conductor – David Hill MBE

Conductor Emeritus – Marin Alsop | Conductor Laureate – Andrew Litton

One of the UK’s best-loved orchestras, Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra is a **professional ensemble known for championing the role of culture in people’s lives**. With residencies in Bournemouth, Bristol, Exeter, Portsmouth and Poole, it is the largest cultural provider in the South West of England, serving one of the biggest and most diverse regions.

The BSO received the **Royal Philharmonic Society's Impact Award** in 2019 for its work in improving opportunities for disabled musicians, and **BSO Resound — the world's first professional disabled-led ensemble at the core of a major orchestra** —continues to receive international attention for igniting change. Challenging access to high-quality music for all, the BSO leads hundreds of events each year, from award-winning work in health and care settings to partnerships with schools and music education hubs.

The Orchestra, under its Chief Conductor Kirill Karabits, is known for pushing artistic boundaries, and its ongoing series of music from former Soviet states, *Voices from the East*, continues to gain praise. Boasting an enviable list of principal conductors, including Marin Alsop, the first female principal conductor of a major UK orchestra, the BSO has given memorable performances worldwide and with regular live broadcasts on BBC Radio 3 and Classic FM.

The Orchestra's inaugural livestreamed series, which featured Sir John Eliot Gardiner, Benjamin Grosvenor and Alina Ibragimova, was widely praised by audiences and critics alike, with **the BSO making history as one of the first British orchestras to return to the stage in 2020**. In 2021, **Horn player Felix Klieser** made a memorable UK concerto debut as the Orchestra's Artist-in-Residence, and the BSO resumed its symphonic touring of the South West.

Committed to new music, the Orchestra celebrates a triptych of contemporary symphonic works written by women in its forthcoming season, with premiere performances of works by Carmen Ho, Franghiz Ali-Zadeh and Elizabeth Ogonek. During the pandemic, the BSO also gave premieres by composers Shirley J. Thompson OBE and Magnus Lindberg.

3. **About Rawlins Davy** | <https://www.rawlinsdavy.com/>

Rawlins Davy Solicitors & Mediators is a leading Bournemouth based firm of commercial solicitors with the benefit of a specialised private client department.

The solicitor directors are committed to offering their clients a professional service of the highest calibre and proven excellence. They advise company and business clients, from start-ups to those with a turnover in excess of £100 million, on both general and complex transactions and including commercial property law, company sales, mergers and acquisitions and dispute resolution.

Rawlins Davy's dedicated Private Client team offers a wide range of personal advice, with particular expertise in tax issues and estate planning.

4. **About Tapper Funeral Service** | <https://www.tapperfuneralservice.co.uk/>

Tapper Funeral Service was founded in 1904 and remains owned and operated by the Tapper family. In recent years, it has opened and developed Harbour View Crematorium and Woodland Burial Ground in Lytchett Minster which offers wider choice to local bereaved families in selecting a funeral service that suits their needs whether those be traditional or contemporary. Modern facilities include tea-rooms in which to take refreshments after a funeral, air-conditioned ceremony halls and high quality audio visual equipment.

5. The BSO's Principal Broadcast Partner is **BBC Radio 3**

6. The BSO is **Classic FM's** Orchestra in the South of England.